

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above identified application is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to correct obvious editorial errors.

Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under Section 103(a) over Leatherwood et al.

Claim 1 recites a bill dispenser 18,36 which is fundamentally different than the shields 68,68' disclosed by Leatherwood.

Claim 1 also recites a traction wheel 22,50 at the end of a cantilever 20,38 which the examiner admits is not disclosed by Leatherwood.

The examiner's conclusion that it would have been obvious to "replace Leatherwood's detentes 106 with a traction wheel" is not supported by any evidence, and disregards the express teachings of Leatherwood itself.

The detentes 106 have no relevancy to structure for dispensing bills as recited in claims 1 and 2. The detentes 106 are provided in Leatherwood merely to provide an attachment for the cover 70' to the bail 54' in the figure 5 embodiment being used by the examiner. The cover 70' shields the underlying paper currency and has no utility whatsoever to dispense that currency.

The examiner's contention to replace the detentes with "a traction wheel" is not supported by any evidence, and is quite illogical. Why substitute? What reference suggests the substitution? Of what value would a traction wheel be instead of the detentes? How is this substitution "merely a design consideration which does not change the functions of the frictional retention detentes?" What is their function?

The function of the detentes 106 is to frictionally receive the bail 54' for attachment to the cover 70'. What

relevance to this function is a traction wheel? How could a traction wheel be substituted for the detentes and still operate to attach the bail 54' and cover 70'?

Assuming arguendo that the detentes could be replaced by traction wheels, what relevance is this to claims 1 and 2? The substitution proffered by the examiner would necessarily place those wheels atop the cover 70' in some unexplained attachment to the bail 54'. Yet the cover 70' itself nevertheless shields the underlying currency, and prevents any dispensing thereof by those substituted wheels.

The examiner's proposed modification of Leatherwood is clearly illogical and not supported by evidence, nor does it comply with the motivation requirements of case law. And, most importantly, the proposed combination still does not correspond with the combinations recited in claims 1 and 2.

In claim 1, the traction wheel is configured "for frictionally dispensing said bill;" but the cover 70' in Leatherwood renders impossible bill dispensing by any wheel replacing the detentes.

Claim 2 further recites means for manually engaging the traction wheel which has various forms disclosed in the specification. There is nothing identified by the examiner in figure 5 of Leatherwood having corresponding structure and function. Again, the cover 70' would render impossible any bill dispensing in Leatherwood by a wheel replacing the detentes above the cover.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under Section 103(a) over Leatherwood et al is warranted and is requested.

Applicants note the allowability of claims 3-19, but the rewriting thereof is not warranted.

In accordance with the duty imposed by 37 CFR 1.104 and MPEP sections 707, 707.05, 707.07, and 707.07(g), the examiner is requested to reconsider all the art of record to ensure

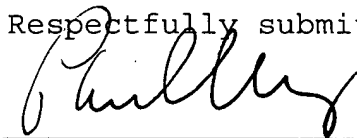
full compliance with the required thoroughness of examination. In re Portola Packaging, Inc., 42 USPQ2d 1295 (Fed. Cir. 1997) emphasizes the importance of complying with this duty to ensure that all references of record have been fully considered by the examiner in the various combinations thereof.

In view of the above remarks, allowance of all claims 1-19 over the art of record is warranted and is requested.

In the event the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Date: JUL 20 2000

Respectfully submitted,



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